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Note on OIT Technical Task Groups

Thirty Technical Task Groups have been established under the aegis of the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce, to review the need of the Soviet Bloc for a wide range of items on the U.S. Security Export Control Lists. Since these lists are in some measure related to the COMCOM Lists and the Battle Act Lists, this review will serve the threefold purpose of providing the basis for: (a) adjustment of the U.S. Lists, (b) support of the U.S. Delegate to the COMCOM in the forthcoming review by that group of its lists, and (c) such revision of the Battle Act Lists as appears appropriate.

Joint Committee on Export Control Levels

This committee was established in September 1952 by special arrangement between Commerce and ODNS at the instance of the latter. Its immediate purpose is to provide a forum for review of the studies prepared by the OIT Technical Task Groups so that the proposals ultimately put forward by the U.S. Delegate to COMCOM are all based on a single standard and take into account political and economic factors in addition to technical considerations. (OC Document No. 956 and 956 Supp. 1)

By mid-December 1952 there appeared a major difference of opinion as to the authority of this committee. ODNS felt that it supplanted the ACHP, but Commerce did not consider that it had.

Note on prospective revision of EDAC structure

In October 1952 a tentative proposal for altering the EDAC structure was announced. The proposed reorganization would encompass a structure composed of the present Advisory Committee, Technical Staff Committee, and Steering Group, and six reconstituted Working Groups (Export Controls, Application and Enforcement, Cargo Transport Controls, Transit Trade, Decreasing Reliance, Economic Counter-measures). In addition the proposal envisaged the establishment of three special joint committees (EDAC-IAC, EDAC-ACHP, Staff Action).

The above tentative proposal appeared in EDAC Weekly Action Summary No. 23 of 27 October 1952. No further action on the proposal has been reported as of mid-December 1952.

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